

COVID-19 Orange County, California Vaccination Fact Sheet

What's happening with vaccine authorizations?

In December 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued emergency use authorizations for two COVID-19 vaccines. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) determined that both the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine (approved for persons 16 and older) and the Moderna vaccine (approved for those 18 and older) help prevent the contraction of COVID-19, and can reduce the risk of becoming seriously ill. The federal government is working to transport vaccines as quickly and safely as possible to states, with the goal of ending this pandemic.

Each state will allocate the COVID-19 vaccines using guidance provided by the CDC, which recommends that vaccinations should be provided first to health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities. You can learn more about the CDC's recommendations here.

What is California's plan?

California aims to fairly allocate and distribute the COVID-19 vaccine at no cost to Californians, in order of priority. Information about the state's distribution plan can be found here.

California's vaccine distribution plan is broken up as follows:

- Phase 1A: Health care workers and long-term care facility residents, individuals aged 65 and older
 - Vaccinations were first made available for Californians in Phase 1A: long-term care facility residents and health care workers, including those in non-clinical roles.
 - Health care workers can seek vaccinations from their employers, and CVS and Walgreens partnered with the state to administer the free COVID-19 vaccine to longterm care residents and staff.
 - Additionally, the Orange County Health Care Agency <u>announced</u> that Phase 1A will include <u>law enforcement officers</u> who work in areas and facilities with a high risk for transmitting COVID-19.
- **Phase 1B** (Tier 1): Essential workers in the sectors of education, childcare, emergency services, and food and agriculture
- **Phase 1B** (Tier 2): Incarcerated and homeless persons and workers in the following sectors: transportation and logistics; industrial, commercial, residential, and sheltering facilities and services; and critical manufacturing
- Phase 1C: Individuals 50-64 years of age, those with underlying health conditions or
 disabilities that increase the risk of severe COVID-19 symptoms, and workers at risk of
 exposure in the following sectors: water and wastewater; defense; energy; chemical and
 hazardous materials; communications and IT; financial services; and government operations /
 community-based essential functions

What about the general public?

The state of California aims to offer the vaccine to the general public by spring 2021, and expects to have enough supplies to vaccinate most Californians in all 58 counties by summer 2021. This <u>plan</u> is subject to change according to vaccine production and other changing circumstances.

How do I get the vaccine in Orange County?

Orange County set in motion its "Operation Independence" goal to complete all county vaccinations by July 4, 2021. Orange County residents should continue to monitor the county's <u>vaccination</u> <u>distribution website</u> for the most up-to-date information. All Californians currently eligible for the vaccine should register online through https://www.othena.com/ to find out when and where they can get vaccinated.

On January 11, 2021, Orange County <u>announced</u> it had established the first **Super Point-of- Dispensing (POD) site at Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, CA**. The POD is open seven days a week from 8am to 5pm, but vaccinations are by appointment only. Additional Super POD sites will follow as agreements are finalized.

What do I need to bring?

- Residents aged 65+ need to show photo ID and proof of residency
- Phase 1A Critical and Health Care Workers need to show photo ID and one of the following:
 - o Professional license
 - o Employee badge with name
 - o Signed letter from employer on facility letterhead
 - Employment pay stub with printed name

For additional information or further assistance, please contact our office at (202) 225-5611 or (949) 668-6600 or submit a question through our website <u>here</u>.

Stay connected with Congresswoman Katie Porter:



